(ii) Career-counselling & vocational guidance to the job-seekers so as to help them in shaping their careers.

In the present employment-unemployment scenario, the activities being performed by the Employment Exchanges are of great importance.

Projects under MPLADS

*25. SHRI SANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a legislation to regulate recommendation, sanction and execution of projects under MPLADS;

(b) whether existing guidelines are proposed to be amended; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The existing Guidelines on MPLADS have been revised and issued on 16 11.2005. The details thereof are given in the statement.

Statement

Detailed Guidelines on MPLADS

Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is under implementation since 1993-94. The Guidelines under the Scheme were revised from time to time and lastly it was revised in April, 2002. Subsequently, certain clariftcatory circulars have been issued. Now, a comprehensive revision has been made and a fresh set of Guidelines has been issued on 16th November, 2005. These Guidelines are based on the feed back received from Hon'ble MPs, the suggestions of the Committees on MPLADS (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha), the observations made by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the operational experience of the monitoring of the scheme.

In the revised Guidelines, some of the improvements are as under:

i) Important sectors like drinking water, education, public health, sanitation and roads have been given priority.

ii) Earmarking of 15% and 7.5% funds for each MP for development of SC and ST inhabited areas respectively.

iii) Automatic release of Rs. 1 crore in respect of MPs at the time of constitution of Lok Sabha and election to the Rajya Sabha without waiting for monthly progress report.

iv) Automatic release of first instalment in any financial year in those cases where two instalments have been released in the previous year.

v) The role of Implementing Agencies, District Authority, State Government and Central Government have been listed separately.

vi) Limit of Rs. 25 lakh of individual work has been removed while maintaining the same forTrusts/Societies/NGOs.

vii) List of the permissible items has been removed. Instead the list of works prohibited under MPLADS has been given.

viii) MPLADS works costing upto Rs. 10 lakh for natural calamities like floods, cyclone etc. by MPs from the non-affected areas of their State.

ix) The maximum limit for rehabilitation of work in the affected areas by severe calamities have been raised to Rs. 50 lakh.

x) A time frame for all the works completed from 1993-94 onward has been prescribed for submission of Utilization Certificates and Audit Certificates.

xi) Utilization Certificate for the previous financial year and the Audit certificate for the funds utilized in the year prior to the previous year have also been made the pre-requisites for the release of the second instalment in a year.

xii) The role of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local bodies as Implementing Agencies has been stressed.